

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 IO-13

DPW-01 DRC-01 L-03 H-03 /114 W

----- 050215

R 101106Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 961

INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, BG

SUBJ: GOP ON WAR CRIMES TRIALS

1. GOP HAS RESPONDED TO RECENT LONDON TIMES ARTICLE QUOTING BANGLADESH LAW MINISTER AS SAYING THAT BDG STILL INTENDS TO HOLD WAR CRIMES TRIALS AND THAT LIST OF 195 PAK POWS WILL SHORTLY BE SENT TO DELHI. LOCAL PRESS SEPTEMBER 9 CARRIED ASSOCIATED PRESS PAKISTAN REPORT THAT "OFFICIAL SOURCES" IN ISLAMABAD HAD DECLARED IT WAS "SELF-EVIDENT" FROM AUGUST 28 INDO-PAK AGREEMENT THAT TRIALS WOULDNOT BE HELD. SOURCES POINTED OUT THAT AGREEMENT SPECIFIED TRIPARTITE MEETING OF PAKISTAN, INDIA AND BANGLADESH AFTER COMPLETION POW REPATRIATION AND BENGALEE-BIHARI EXCHANGE TO SETTLE DISPOSITION OF THE 195. SINCE GOP COULD NEVER AGREE TO THEIR TRANSFER TO BANGLADESH, THERE WAS NO QUESTION ANY TRIALS EVER TAKING PLACE.

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2. COMMENT: AUGUST 28 AGREEMENT MANAGED TO GET AROUND  
STICKY QUESTION OF WAR CRIMES TRIALS BY  
BEING DELIBERATELY AMBIGUOUS ON ULTIMATE FATE OF THE 195  
POWS BDG WISHES PUT ON TRIAL, LEAVING BOTH GOP AND BDG  
FREE TO HARBOR THEIR OWN INTERPRETATIONS. WE HOPE  
PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS FROM DACCA AND ISLAMABAD (WHICH  
INEVITABLY CALL FOR REJOINDER BY OTHER SIDE)  
WILL NOT UPSET DELICATE BALANCE ACHIEVED IN THIS ISSUE  
AND IMPOSE OBSTACLE TO IMPLEMENTATION AUGUST 28  
AGREEMENT.  
SOBER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMISTICE, WAR CRIMES TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973ISLAMA07617  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ISLAMABAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730946/aaaabhnw.tel  
**Line Count:** 72  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <18-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOP ON WAR CRIMES TRIALS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PK, IN, BG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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